GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2358
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2014
RAILWAY SCHEDULES
Agrawal Shri Rajendra

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that several trains are not running as per their schedules causing inconvenience to the passengers and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons behind the violation of train schedules;

(b) whether there is any mechanism to monitor the arrival/departure of trains in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways to ensure timely operation of trains?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c) Yes, Madam. While Railways continuously monitor the punctuality of passenger carrying trains, right from the time they commence their journey till they terminate, at the Divisional, Zonal and Board level, it also assesses the extent of delay and takes effective remedial steps, both short and long term to control the factors which impede the running of trains.

Running trains as per schedule is governed by a variety of factors, many of which fall within the purview of railway working and others on which Railways have little or no control. The former relate to reliability of assets, time-tabling, constraints of line capacity and terminal capacity, non-availability of surplus stock for controlling rescheduling of trains etc, the latter concerns delays due to grid failures, cattle run over cases, public agitations, bandhs, bad weather (including fog), miscreant activity (including alarm-chain pulling), running of unscheduled pilots ahead of Mail/ Express trains in areas having law and order problems etc. Occurrences of some of factors mentioned above have a cascading impact in the movement of trains especially on saturated sections and delay the movement of all subsequent trains.

(d) While Indian Railways takes immediate and effective remedial action in so far as the railway related causes are concerned, for the non-railway related causes interalia, it tries to mitigate the adverse effect of late running by maintaining close liaison with Civil Police Authorities of State/Central Government.